

4/2/79

For The Record

called [REDACTED] (RAB/ISAS) today re: final disposition of the OSS ground photos - (accord my records - 402<sup>3</sup> ft. 3 film - George thought somewhere over 500<sup>3</sup>) -

all film currently stored at [REDACTED] in the "cold room."

Docs were offered to NARS sometime ago - Geo. just rec'd answer fr. NARS last week - "NOT INTERESTED." Photos not subject to researching etc.

almost all photos were logged & receipted when rec'd from "donor." Most photos were duplicated & orig. returned to owner. Evidence in file that many not returned after failure to locate owner.

NARS has informally (will send formal memo next wk) for return of small group of films which NARS inadvertently mixed in w/ OSS collection when they returned them to us.

Agency will now offer 1<sup>st</sup> to L.B. Congress - & then possibly to some univ. or other institution.

update

DSS  
PHOTOS  
420

8/18

1. OGC reviewing question of ownership [redacted]

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2. Review underway with NPIC to det. if photos are only duplicates —

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3. [redacted]

8/15 — primary question of concern to NARS re: with legality of using these photos. If, as originally promised the contributor, that the photos will not be published or released w/o approval of the donor — then there is a legal hold down on placing photo in NARS & in public domain. NARS wants only if they have clear title. OGC must tell me if original consent is still pending.

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OSS  
PHOTO

Approved

7: C

60001-1

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297 145  
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402  
STATINTL

8/7/78

OSS holding  
accru. memo

The 402 st. show up on the  
memo of Dec. 1977.

There are:  
402 st. film

ground  
"OSS photos"

NO job order NO

417 Archival boxes  
20 pt negatives

labeled as:

photos, negatives & Source cards

① 1439/40 opened up BS  
request for all cities provide  
photos in ww countries...  
② apt 2 source  
of photo

"Inventoried" by County & in boxes  
Ready for shipment to NARS 8888

what is how is collection classified?

what does "inventoried" mean?

what are the "Source cards"?

what does "ready" mean?

who determined this collection is "permanent"?

\*\* Not previously reviewed by the  
OSS review team. .... for declass.?

194R004200160001-1  
for any add'l  
info let me

8/8/78  
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Subj: OSS ground photos held [REDACTED]  
(approx 4/7 caft)

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[REDACTED] - by phone:

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(a) This group of photos were simply sent [REDACTED] - NO retirement order and NO JDB or LOT No. on these documents

It appears these photos, negatives & source cards were "pushed down" [REDACTED] to get them out of safes at Hqs. (probably those sending the records hoped that someone would destroy them w/o further to do.)

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(b) This collection in essence consists of photographs & negatives supplied by various & sundry U.S. citizens to help the war effort. prob. around 1939/1940 US govt sent out request for photos w/jw ... indiv. U.S. citizens responded providing these photos "on loan." Each donor was provided a receipt.

(c) Col. Tagge, NARS, has indicated interest in acquiring this collection but is concerned over ownership of the photos - i.e. does the agency own them or do they still belong to the indiv. donor? It may be necessary for the agency to search out the old owners and offer to return the photos. This matter should be discussed with OGC

(d) NPIC does not want the collection ... they have already made duplicates of those they want.

(e) Next step is ours - photos not reviewed & remain classified. By question is who owns these photos?

8/10

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not: f. NARS  
re: ownership of  
these <sup>off</sup> photos - she  
has gone to OGC.

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